MINUTES

OF THE

SYNOD OF SOUTH CAROLINA,

AT ITS

ANNUAL SESSIONS

AT

SPARTANBURG, S. C.,

October 24, 25, 26, and 28, 1878.

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF SYNOD.

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MINUTES

SPARTANBURG, S. C., October 23d, 1878.

The Synod of South Carolina met according to adjournment in the Spartanburg Presbyterian Church, and was opened with a sermon by the Moderator, Rev. J. L. Girardeau, D. D., upon "The Fundamental Principles of the Diaconate," from Philippians, I, 1 "Paul and Timotheus, the servants of Jesus Christ, to all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi, with the bishops and *deacons*." After divine service the Synod was called to order, and prayer was offered by the Moderator. Upon calling the roll the following members were found to be

Present.

BETHEL PRESBYTERY.

MINISTERS.	RULING ELDERS.	CHURCHES.
J. H. Saye,	G. C. Gill. (2)	Fishing Creek,
A. A. James,	F. W. Eison,	Fair Forest and Grin'l Shoals
J. S. Bailey,	R. C. Farr,	Cane Creek,
W. W. Ratchford,	G. H. Miller,	Concord,
J. L. Wilson,	S. G. Hemphill,	Bethesda,
R. E. Cooper, (2)*	D. D. Moore,	Ebeneza and Rock Hill,
J. S. White,	J. A. Hefner,	Catholic and Pleasant Grove
R. D. Perry,	W. H Stuart,	Fort Mill,
J. W. Spratt,	J. G. Lowry,	Zion,
L. R. McCormick,	W. J. Neely, (2)	Allison Creek and Beersheba
L. H. Wilson, (2)	J. F. Hart, (2)	Yorkville,
B. G. Clifford,	W. A. Nicholson,	Unionville,
G. A. Trenholm.	J. L. Harris.	Purity.

CHARLESTON PRESBYTERY.

MINISTERS.	RULING ELDERS.	CHURCHES.
J. L. Girardeau,		
J. D. A. Brown, (2)		
F. L. Leeper,		
John R. Dow,		
W. F. Junkin,		
T. H. Cunningham,	W. J. Duffie, (3)	Columbia, First Church.
J. R. Jacobs,	W. G. Vardell,	Summerville.
J. E. Fogartie,	J. J. Murray.	Edisto.

*The figures opposite indicate the day of enrollment of members who were tardy

HARMONY PRESBYTERY.

MINISTERS.	RULING ELDERS.	CHURCHES.
J. Leighton Wilson, (3)	R. C. McFadden,	Concord,
S. H. Hay,	J T. Hay,	Camden,
J. G. Richards, (2)	R. E. McFadden,	Midway,
James McDowell,	A. White,	Sumterville,
W. A. Gregg,	M. K. Yarboro,	Pine Tree and Pisgah,
W. W. Mills, (2)	J. Bookman,	Horeb.
A. M. Hassell,		
H. G. Gilland.		

SOUTH CAROLINA PRESBYTERY.

MINISTERS.	RULING ELDERS.	CHURCHES.
J. B. Adger,	J. H. McClinton, (2)	Roberts,
Z. L. Holmes, (2)	Samuel Bryson,	Liberty Spring,
W. F. Pearson,	T. J. Moore,	Nazareth,
F. Jacobs,	S. R. Todd,	Laurens,
H. McLees (2)	T. H. Russell, (2)	Carmel,
W. P. Jacobs,	N. A. Green,	Clinton,
T. H. Law,	W. T. Russel,	Spartanburg,
A. P. Nicholson, (2)	Roger Brown, (2)	Rocky Springs, Friendship,
J. L. Martin,	R. H. Waidlaw, (2)	Abbeville. [and Lisbon.
D. E. Frierson. (2)	J. R. Cunningham, (2)	Rocky River,
R. A. Fair,	S. P. Boozer,	Aveleigh,
T. C. Ligon,	C. C. Teague,	Smyrna, Gilder's Creek, and
E. P. Davis,	S. G. Smith, (3)	Mt. Tabor. [Mt. Bethel.
J. G. Law,		
A. L. Miller,	M. S. Lynn,	Limestone,
R. H. Nall,	L. B. Cline,	Washington Street,
R. C. Ligon, (2)	W. C. Sherard, (2)	Good Hope and Providence.
S. L. Morris.		
H. T. Morton. (3)		

Absent.

BETHEL PRESBYTERY.

Ministers—S. L. Watson, L. W. Curtis, D. Harrison, T. W. Irwin, James Douglass, J. H. Douglas,† J. W. Query, J. G. Hall, D. P. Robinson, E. Brantley,† C. R. Hemphill.

Churches not Represented—Beth Shiloh, Bullock's Creek, Carmel Hill, Cedar Shoal, Enoree, Harmony, Hopewell, Lancasterville and Douglass, Mizpah, Mt. Olivet, Mt. Tabor, Olivet, Salem, Shiloh, Six Mile Creek, Tirzah. Waxhaw.

CHARLESTON PRESBYTERY.

Ministers—George Howe,† Edward Palmer,† T. H. Legare, C. S. Vedder,† W. H. Adams, G. R. Brackett, J. B. Dunwody, J. H. Bryson, J. B. Mack †

Churches not Represented—Allendale, Aiken, Barnwell, Beech Island, Charleston Central, Charleston Second, Ebenezer, Harmony, James Island, John's Island and Wadmalaw, Mt. Pleasant, New Wappetaw, Orangeburg, Stoney Creek, Walterboro and Wilton, Zion, (Glebe Street.)

† Excused for absence.

HARMONY PRESBYTERY.

Ministers—Wm. Brearley, W. M. Reid, D. McQueen,† J. A. Cousar, H. M. Brearley, J. L. Bartlett, J. E. Dunlop, E. H. Buist,† W. S. Plumer,† N. W. Edmunds, W. T Thompson, R. Bradley, C. E. Chichester, J. S. Cozby, W. J. McKay,† D. S. McAlister, D. McDuffie, H. C. DuBose, W. C. Smith.

Churches not Represented.—Aimwell, Beaver Creek, Bishopville and Hephbibah, Bethel, Carolina and Red Bluff, Centre Point, Cheraw, Darlington, Elon, Florence, Hopewell, Indiantown, Kentyre, Kingston, Lebanon and Salem, (L. R.) Liberty Hill, Lynchburg, Fair Hope and Beulah, Marion and Little Pee Dee, Mt. Zion, Manning and Brewington, Bennettsville and Great Pee Dee, Reedy Creek, Salem, (B. R.) Scion, Tirzah, Turky Creek, Union and Williamsburg.

SOUTH CAROLINA PRESBYTERY.

Ministers—W. Carlile, W. McWhorter, J. F. Gibert, C. B. Stewart, John McLees, R. H. Reid,† E. F. Hyde, J. O. Lindsay,† J. R. Riley,† Hugh Strong,† T. E. Davis.

Churches not Repesented—Anderson, Antioch, Belton, Bethany, Bethel, Bethia, Central, Cokesbury, Duncan's Creek, Edgefield, Fairview, Greenville and Upper Long Cane, Honea Path, Hopewell and Willington, Lebanon, Little Mountain, Little River, Midway, Mt. Calvary. Mt. Zion, Nazareth, (T.) Ninety-Six, North Pacolet, New Harmony, Old Pickens, New Pickens, Retreat, Richland, Rock, Shady Grove, Seneca City, Varennes, Walhalla, Warrior's Creek, Williamston and Woodruffs.

Rev. W. F. Junkin, D. D., was unanimously elected Moderator, the vote being taken by acclamation; and Elder J. T. Hay was in like manner elected Assistant Clerk.

On motion of Rev. T. H. Law, Synod adopted the following

Schedule for the Daily Sessions.

From 9½ a. m. to 1 p. m., the last half hour to be spent in devotional exercises.

From 3 p. m. to 5 p. m.

Evening sessions to begin at 7½ p. m.

On motion, Synod then adjourned, with prayer, till to-morrow morning.

THURSDAY, October 24th, 9½ a. m.

Synod was opened with prayer, and the minutes of last night's session were read and approved.

The following additional members appeared, rendered satisfactory reasons for tardiness, and were enrolled:

FROM BETHEL PRESBYTERY.

Ministers.—R. E. Cooper and L. H. Wilson.

Ruling Elders.—A. P. Campbell, from Bethel Church; D. D. Moore, from Ebenezer and Rock Hill; W. J. Neely, from Allison Creek and Beersheba; J. F. Hart, from Yorkville; and G. C. Gill, from Fishing Creek.

From South Carolina Presbytery

Ministers.—D. E. Frierson, A. P. Nicholson, R. C. Ligon, Z. L. Holmes, and H. McLees.

Ruling Elders—T. H. Russell, from Carmel Church: W. C. Sherard, from Good Hope and Providence; J. H. McClinton, from Roberts; R H. Wardlaw, from Abbeville; J. R. Cunningham, from Rocky River; and Roger Brown, from Rocky Spring, Friendship and Lisbon.

Rev. Robert Nall, D. D., and Rev. J.K.Hazen, of the Synod of Alabama, Rev. A. D. Hepburn, D. D., Synod of North Carolina, Rev. J. R. Baird, Synod of Virginia, and Rev. Messrs. J. M. Carlisle and H. F. Chreitzberg, M. E. Church, South, being present, were invited to sit as corresponding members.

The Moderator announced the following

Standing Committees.

Devotional Exercises.—Rev. T. H. Law and Elder Dr. W. T. Russel.

Bills and Overtures.—Rev. J. L. Girardeau, D. D., S. H. Hay and L. H. Wilson; Elders S. P. Boozer and S. G. Hemphill.

Judicial.—Rev. J. R Dow, James McDowell and R. H. Nall; Elders T. J. Moore and J. J. Murray.

Narrative.—Rev. J. R Jacobs and G. A. Trenholm; Elder R. E. McFadden.

Foreign Missions.—Rev. J. L. Martin and F. L. Leeper; Elder W. H. Stuart.

Theological Seminary.—Rev. J. Lowrie Wilson, J. E. Fogartie, and D. E. Frierson; Elders A. White and L. B. Cline.

Finance.—Elders J. L. Harris and S. R. Todd.

Minutes of Assembly.—Rev. J. B. Adger, D. D., and W. A. Gregg; Elder R. C. Farr.

Leave of Absence.—Rev. Jno. G. Law and J. S. White; Elder D. D. Moore.

Presbyterial Records.—Bethel—Rev. F. L.Leeper and Elder Dr. W. T. Russel; Charleston—Rev. B. G. Clifford and Elder N. A. Green; Harmony—Rev. T. H. Cunningham and Elder G. H. Miller; South Carolina—Rev. R. E. Cooper and Elder W. A. Nicholson.

Upon the call for communications, excuses for absence from sundry brethren were read and referred to the Committee on Leave of Absence. The Stated Clerk also presented an appeal from a certain action of Bethel Presbytery, at Chester on the 16th January last, placed in his hands by the Rev. J. E. White; which was referred to the Judicial Committee.

The several Presbyteries presented their Narratives, and the following

Statistical Reports.

Bethel Presbytery reports to the Synod of South Carolina that it consists of 25 Ministers and 37 Churches. During the past year it has ordained Licentiate G. A. Trenholm, and installed him pastor of Purity Church; and Licentiate E. Brantley, and installed him pastor of Zion Church. It has also ordained Licentiate C. R. Hemphill as an Evangelist. It has installed Rev. L. R. McCormick pastor of Allison Creek Church; and dissolved the pastoral relations existing between Rev. T. W. Erwin and Mt. Olivet Church, and Rev. J. B. Mack and Fort Mill and Waxhaw Churches. It has licensed

Candidate H. C. Fennel as a probationer for the Gospel Ministry. And it has dismissed Rev. J. B. Mack to Charleston Presbytery, and Licentiate T. M. Lowry to the care of Tombeckbee Presbytery, Synod of Mississippi. It has organized one new Church, known as Mt. Vernon, in Union County.

D. HARRISON, Stated Clerk.

CHARLESTON PRESBYTERY reports to the Synod of South Carolina that it consists of 17 Ministers and 23 Churches, three of which are colored. It has under its care one Licentiate and four Candidates for the Ministry. It has ordained Licentiate J. E. Fogartie, and installed him pastor of Edisto Island Church; and it has transferred Licentiate Jas. J. Chisolm to the care of Transylvania Presbytery, Kentucky. It has dissolved the pastoral relation existing between the Rev. F. L. Leeper and the Churches of James Island and John's Island and Wadmalaw. It has organized the Church of Allendale, and re-organized the Churches of Summerville and Barnwell. It has received the Rev. Jos. B. Mack from the Presbytery of Bethel, and installed him pastor of the First Church, Columbia. It has also received the Rev. J. R. Jacobs from the Presbytery of South Carolina, and he now labors in the Summerville and Mt. Pleasant Churches. It has granted leave to the Rev. Wm. Howell Taylor, of the Presbytery of Brooklyn, N. Y., to supply the Aiken Church. It has two Evangelists, and its twenty white Churches are all supplied statedly with the means of grace. The Harmony congregation has left an old house of worship, and now occupies a new and commodious one.

JOHN R. DOW, Stated Clerk.

HARMONY PRESBYTERY reports to the Synod of South Carolina that it is composed of 27 Ministers and 43 Churches, and has under its care three Licentiates and five Candidates. Rev. W. C. Smith has been received from the Presbytery of South Carolina; Candidates E. G. Smith and H. G. Gilland have been licensed to preach the Gospel, and Licentiate H. G. Gilland has since been ordained and installed pastor of the Indiantown Church. Licentiate John Henderson has been dismissed to the care of Bethel Presbytery. The pastoral relation of thirty-six years' standing, between the Rev. William Brearley and the Darlington Church, has been dissolved; and that also between the Rev. C. E. Chichester and Scion Church. James McCallum Plowden has been received under the care of Presbytery as a Candidate for the Ministry. Thirty-nine out of forty three Churches are supplied statedly with the means of grace.

W. A. GREGG, Stated Clerk.

SOUTH CAROLINA PRESBYTERY reports to the Synod of South Carolina that it consists of 29 Ministers and 61 Churches, and has under its care two Licentiates and twelve candidates. It has organized the three new Churches of Woodruffs, Central and New Pickens; has received from the Presbytery of Atlanta, Rev. F. Jacobs, D. D., and Rev. R. H. Nall, and has installed Mr. Nall pastor of Washington Street Church, Greenville. It has ordained and installed Licentiate E. P. Davis pastor of Hopewell and Willington Churches. It has licensed Candidates J. L. Brownlee and A. E. Norris to preach the Gospel. It has dissolved the pastoral relations between Rev. J. R. Jacobs and New Harmony, Antioch and Mt. Tabor Churches; and between Rev. Hugh McLees and George's Creek Church. It has dismissed Rev. J. R. Jacobs to Charleston Presbytery, and Rev. W. C. Smith to Harmony Presbytery. It has lost by death the Rev. E. T. Buist, D. D.

WM. P. JACOBS, Stated Clerk.

On motion of Rev. J. H. Saye, a committee was appointed to bring in a memorial of the Rev. E. T. Buist, D. D., deceased. Rev. J. H. Saye, Rev. J. B. Adger, D. D., and Elder J. Bookman were appointed this committee.

Rev. T. H. Law presented as follows:

Treasurer's Report for the Year 1877--1878.

Rev. T. H. Law, Treasurer, in account with the Synod of South Carolina.

DR.

To Balance on hand at close of last year	20 95	
" Assessment of Bethel Presbytery, paid	45 00	
" " " Harmony Presbytery, paid	40 00	
" " " South Carolina Presbytery, paid,	50 00	
" " " Charleston Presbytery, paid	30 00	185 95

CR.

By Expense printing and distributing 1,500 copies Minutes	79 40	
" Salary of Stated Clerk	100 00	
" Balance in hand	6 55	185 95

Respectfully submitted, T. H. LAW, Treasurer.

The Annual Report of the "Society for the Relief of Indigent and Superannuated Ministers," etc., was presented and referred to the following special committee, viz: Rev. F. Jacobs, D. D., Rev. R. A. Fair and Elder J. R Cunningham.

The Synod went into an election for the place and time of the next meeting; and Rock Hill was chosen as the place, and Wednesday before the fifth Sabbath in November, (the 26th day,) at 7, p. m., as the time.

A petition was presented, signed by sundry Ministers and Elders of Bethel and South Carolina Presbyteries, praying the Synod to organize a new Presbytery, consisting of the Ministers and Churches located in the Counties of Spartanburg, Greenville Laurens and Union. On motion it was referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures.

Rev. W A. Gregg called attention to an overture contained in the Narrative of Harmony Presbytery, which was also referred to the same committee.

Rev. Jas. K. Hazen, the Assembly's Secretary of Publication, was heard at length in regard to the interests of Publication and Sabbath Schools. On motion, a committee, consisting of Rev. J. H. Saye, Rev. L. H. Wilson and Elder T. H. Russell, was appointed to consider, and report suitable action in reference to, these matters.

On motion, the hearing and consideration of the report of the Special Committee on a "Plan for Improving the Contributions of our Churches," was made the order for 3 o'clock this afternoon; and of the report of the Special Committee on the Diaconate, the special order for 7½ o'clock this evening.

Rev. Whitefoord Smith, D. D., and Rev. Jas F. Smith, of the M. E. Church, South, being present, were invited to sit as corresponding members.

Devotional Exercises were conducted by the Rev. John R. Dow.

Afternoon Session.

Rev. Dr. Adger presented the report of the Committee on a Plan for Improving the Contributions of our Churches. The report was received and considered. And it was

Resolved, That this able and valuable report be returned to the Committee with the recommendation and request of the Synod that they publish it in such form as may be found practicable.

And to carry out the purposes of the report, it was

Resolved by the Synod of South Carolina—

1. That it be urged on every Minister to instruct his people, and every Evangelist, the feeble congregations to which he ministers, in the Scripture doctrine of the worship of God with substance. On this subject it is necessary in every one of our Churches to give "line upon line, precept upon precept." And our Sessions and our Evangelists are called upon to give opportunity, in the best possible manner, whatever that may be, to all our Churches, for offering to our Adorable Head, the worship under consideration.

2. That for our Churches in cities and towns, the Synod recommends the Envelope, or some similar plan of weekly collections, in order that the unquestionable advantages of frequent, systematic, proportionate and universal offerings may be gained under the guidance of Apostolic wisdom in all these Churches where that method can be employed.

3. That for rural congregations which cannot adopt the Envelope, or some other plan of weekly collections, we recommend the combined use of several plans. The Synod would favour the trial in such Churches of the plan of agricultural and such like undertakings as detailed in the report presented. But where persons have repugnance to such plans, it is recommended to our country Churches to let such persons be invited to employ the written pledge of money. The Deacons can make a list of all the Assembly's objects, and also, if thought desirable, of those objects which concern immediately the local Church ; and persons may be asked to give a written promise to contribute a certain sum at stated periods. The written pledge, in some one or other of the forms suggested in the Report, is very important to be secured, in order to give efficiency to collections in such Churches as cannot follow out Paul's directions to the Galatians and Corinthians. The tribute to our King must be taken from every one of His liege subjects in proportion to the prosperity vouchsafed by Him.

4. Regarding Associations of Ladies and others in efforts to raise money for the work of Foreign Missions, in which they have certainly been very efficient, it may be said that they simply constitute an attempt to unite the Churches, where established, in systematic giving by each and every member to that object, and then going on in the same track, to interest and unite them in collecting money for every other Church object. But where such Associations exist, care should always be taken to have them come under the acknowledged rule of the Church, by their submitting regular reports of their doings and securing the approval of the same by the Session ; because the Synod is jealous of every plan which does not contemplate direct and immediate action by the *Church as such*, and under direct and acknowledged responsibility to the *Ruling Eldership, as such*. Let us call on our Churches in their Church capacity to contribute their offerings at stated times in those ways which seem most practicable, instructing them about Foreign Missions and all the other interests of the Church, and appealing always to that great motive—the love we owe to Him who bought us with His blood.

Rev. W. W. Duncan, of the M. E. Church, South, was invited to sit as a corresponding member.

On motion, it was made the order for 11, a. m., to-morrow, to hear the Rev. Dr. Hepburn, the President of Davidson College, in the interests of that Institution.

Evening Session.

Rev. Dr. Girardeau presented a report, *in part*, of the Committee on the Nature and Functions of the Diaconate. The report was received, and the Editors of the Southern Presbyterian Review were requested to publish it in that periodical. And on motion the Committee was continued, with the request that they complete their labours in the discussion of this important subject, and report again next year.

Rev. Messrs. J. D. A. Brown, J. G. Richards and W. W. Mills, appeared, gave satisfactory reasons for tardiness, and were enrolled.

Rev. S. Taylor Martin, Synod of North Carolina, being present, was invited to a seat as corresponding member.

And also, Rev. R. C. Oliver, of the M. E. Church, South.

Synod then adjourned, with prayer by Dr. Adger, until 9½ o'clock, to morrow morning.

Friday, October 25th, 9½ a. m.

Synod was opened with prayer by the Moderator. The minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

The following members appeared, rendered satisfactory reasons for tardiness, and were enrolled, viz: Rev. J. Leighton Wilson, D. D., and Elders W. J. Duffie, First Church, Columbia, and S. G. Smith, Mt. Tabor Church, South Carolina Presbytery.

Rev. H. T. Morton, Synod of Nashville, and Rev. W. R. Atkinson, Synod of North Carolina, being present, were invited to seats as corresponding members.

Rev. W. P. Jacobs, President of the Thornwell Orphanage, was, on motion, heard in reference to that Institution.

Rev. J. H. Saye presented the following memorial of Rev. E. T. Buist, D. D., deceased, which was adopted:

Edward Tongue Buist was the son of the late Rev. George Buist, D. D., who for many years was the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Charleston, S. C., a man distinguished for piety, knowledge and general usefulness in society. His son, our lamented brother, was born in the city of Charleston, March, 1809. He was instructed carefully by his pious parents in the principles of piety, and prosecuted his studies in science and literature, in

the Colleges of Charleston and South Carolina. Having finished his studies in these institutions, he took a course of instruction in the Princeton Theological Seminary. He was set apart to the full work of the Gospel Ministry by the Charleston Union Presbytery, as pastor of the Church on James Island. After several years of service in this Church, he was induced by impaired health to seek a residence in the up-country. Accordingly he bought a farm near Greenville, S. C., to which he moved with his family, and on which he continued to reside for many years. In these years he was generally actively engaged in preaching the Gospel in the surrounding country. He supplied Nazareth and Fairview Churches for a number of years; and Mt. Tabor and perhaps other Churches grew up under his ministrations. He was also abundant in labours, aiding other ministers at their sacramental meetings.

When the citizens of Laurensville established their College for Females, he was invited to preside over it. This position he accepted, and for a number of years discharged the duties of it with great honor to himself, and profit to the public. Having resigned this trust, he returned to Greenville as pastor of the Presbyterian Church in that town. Under his ministry this congregation flourished, notwithstanding the fact that his energies were often crippled by disease. So far had his constitution been enfeebled, that he resigned his charge a little over a year ago, with the hope of continuing his labours in the Church till the end of the year. The premonitions of his approaching dissolution were so gentle that those around him were not aware that the tabernacle of clay was failing, till he had nearly breathed his last. "The life that now is," with him went out November 10th, 1877, just as the week closed and the Sabbath began. How fit that the labourer in the harvest of souls should enter the everlasting rest at that hour! that the weapons of his warfare should thus drop, and he receive the crown of righteousness! Some of us have often met him in the social circle, in the judicatory of the Church, and in the congregation of worshippers. But we shall see him no more in earthly courts. His example is, however, before us. He will live in the recollection of the past. He is gone before, and his godly life, like lines of light, points to the upper Sanctuary. We hear his voice no more, but the burning words which we have heard from his lips still linger in memory, and admonish us that this is not our home, that we have here no continuing place of abode, and that what we do, must be done quickly.

We may remember of him that he was a man of very solid attainments; a man who loved to think, and possessed the power of communicating his thoughts with great life and vigour. A sound judgment and great powers of discrimination, characterized his course in Church Courts. He was a genial companion in social life, yet often manifested deep seriousness in his intercourse with all men. In his pulpit exercises he exhibited a great readiness in the statement of doctrines and precepts. He was happy in his illustrations, so as greatly to interest and edify his hearers, and to lead to self-examination, self-denial, and self-renunciation, and to get down to the foot of the Cross, and look to Christ alone. In his varied preaching of Christ and Him crucified, the invitations and promises of the Word fell out like manna in the camp of Israel, greatly to the comfort of the weary and the distressed. He had journeyed through the wilderness and knew its temptations, and knew where the living streams flowed and the green pastures were, so as to conduct the weary flock by a safe way. He carried cordials for the faint, and knew how to apply the Balm of Gilead to those ready to perish by the way.

Rev. B. G. Clifford and Rev. T. H. Cunningham of Committees on the Records of Charleston and Harmony Presbyteries, respectively, reported, recommending the approval of the same. Adopted.

Rev. Dr. J. L. Wilson, Secretary, addressed the Synod in the interests of Sustentation. On motion, a Committee, consisting

of Rev. J. G. Richards, Rev. R. H. Nall and Elder W. J. Duffie, was appointed to bring in a resolution in regard to the statements made.

Rev. J. L. Martin presented the report of the Committee on Foreign Missions, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee on Foreign Missions respectfully report: That no material has been placed in our hands except a letter from Rev. H. C. DuBose, our Missionary in China. We recommend

1. That the Synod hold a Conference on Foreign Missions this evening, at 7½ o'clock.

2. That the letter from China be rea .

3. That Rev. J. L. Wilson, D. D., our Assembly's Secretary of Foreign Missions, be requested to deliver an address.

4. That at the close of the Conference a collection be taken up.

Rev. J. R. Dow, of the Judicial Committee, reported concerning the appeal of Rev J. E. White, presenting majority and minority reports from the Committee.

The hour for the special order arrived, pending the consideration of these reports, and the Rev. Dr. Hepburn was heard in the interests of Davidson College. And on motion of Rev. J. H. Saye, it was

Resolved, That Synod has heard with pleasure the statements of the President of Davidson College, and hereby repeats its former recommendation of this Institution to the patronage of our people.

Rev. J. R. Jacobs reported, and Synod adopted the following

NARRATIVE.

The Committee appointed to prepare the Narrative of the State of Religion within the bounds of the Synod, would respectfully report:

That prominent among the encouraging features of a general character, appears the fact that the churches within the boundaries of this Synod are now nearly all supplied with the regular ministration of the Word of Life. In two Presbyteries there is not a single vacant Church, where lately there were several broken pastorates and scattered flocks. A third Presbytery represents that there are now but four vacant pulpits in it; while the fourth states that it has but two, both of which will probably soon be filled.

Another most cheerful feature appears in the fact that the Sabbath-school work seems to be steadily advancing.

But upon the other hand, we find general lamentation on account of the frequent neglect of family worship, and of the frequent failures of the Ruling Elders of the Church to lead the Assembly to a throne of grace. Oh, that the God of Elijah would once more cause His fallen altars to be rebuilt, and give His people courage to "take with them words."

Among matters of a more special nature we note: That in one of our Presbyteries, Jehovah-tsidkeun has appeared most gloriously and graciously to the deliverance of sinners, adding, in a few months, to the Churches within a limited portion of its territory, at least 300, upon profession of faith. That in another Presbytery there appears to be a steady growth and progress especially manifested in the more quiet labour of the Domestic Missionary Work. Also, that though in a third Presbytery there appears no special increase of members, while its general spiritual condition is represented as that which is ordinarily the case; still there have been a few instances of gracious and abundant visitation. But from the fourth and last of our Presbyteries there comes much to deplore. Sabbath-breaking is represented as often gross, worldliness as common and sometimes pronounced, and the Churches as not generally in a healthy state. To quote a line from its Narrative, we read: "Instead of making progress we fear that we have hardly maintained our ground."

But we trust that with all this comes the specific for the disease. The Presbytery would humble itself before God, confessing its sins and overtures this Synod to appoint a day of fasting, humiliation and prayer before the Lord. Oh, that this may be indeed the hour in which the Master shall indicate the faithfulness of the Word assuring that "he that humbleth himself shall be exalted." Oh, that the heart of each member of this Synod may become doubly burdened for the souls of sinners, and with the deepest experimental knowledge, may then realize that "he that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him."

Synod then resumed the unfinished business, viz:—The consideration of the Judicial Committee's report. And after further discussion the report was, on motion, re-committed, with instructions to the Committee to report at 10 a. m., to-morrow.

Rev. Dr. Jacobs, in behalf of the Committee on "The Society for the Relief of Indigent and Superannuated Ministers," etc., reported as follows, which was adopted:

The Committee that has had under consideration the report of the Treasurer of the "Society for the Relief of Indigent and Superannuated Ministers," &c., would respectfully state to the Synod that,

The plan of this Society is to raise a fund, say of $10,000 or $20,000, the interest accruing from which to be used for the benefit of the objects contemplated, but no part of the income to be used until the amount aimed at be accumulated. The report of the Treasurer gives account of the transactions of the Society only during the year just closed. He refers us for information as to the amount previously collected, and the condition of the fund, to his report to Synod for the year 1876. On turning to the Minutes of Synod for that year, we find that the Treasurer did report, and that the Synod took action on his Report; but the Report is not in the Minutes, nor is there any indication in any form of the amount or condition of the funds of the Society.

The Treasurer reports that $631.59 have, during the past year, been added to the capital of the Society, of which sum $603.75 were contributed by the Hon. John Townsend, of the Church on Edisto Island. Your Committee bring to the special notice of Synod this munificent gift, in recognition of it as the appropriation of a faithful "Steward of the mercies of God," which he regards as committed to him for the Master's service.

The Report notices the death of the President of the Society, Hon. Thomas B. C. Perrin, which occurred, without premonition to him, on the 14th day of May last. We trust that although called so suddenly into the Spirit World, he was, through grace, prepared for the momentous change; for that, he habitually lived ready for any service to the Divine Master on earth, or for entering into His rest in Heaven.

The most of the 73 years of the life of Mr. Perrin were dedicated to the service of his Divine Lord. In his personal piety he was devout, in seeking the welfare of Zion he was earnest, and he was ever active in labours to promote her welfare. As a Ruling Elder, so frequently was he a member of this Synod, and so heartily did he enter into the business of Synod, that his history is identified with that of the Synod. Now, not only is his guiding hand lost to the benevolent Society of which he was President, but his judicious counsels are lost to us as a Synod. We lament that he may no more be with us in our annual assemblies, for his presence always brought wholesome influences with it. We mourn his loss as that of a brother beloved in the Lord, and lament that we are deprived of his aid in all labours of love and works of faith, in which it was his joy to participate. But we bow with submission to the will of the Master who has called him from this stage of labour to a higher place of service in the Temple above. We pray that his mantle may fall upon others of our Ruling Elders, and that thus other earnest, efficient labourers may be raised up to supply his place.

To complete and continue the organization of the Society, your Committee would recommend that Judge Thomas Thomson be appointed President, J.M. Baxter, Esq , Vice President, Mr. L. W White, Treasurer, and Mr. Robt. H. Wardlaw, Secretary.

Finally, your Committee would suggest that the Synod add its urgent advice to the advice of the Treasurer, that all proper means be taken by the Board to collect the income due the Society, that thus the principal may be augmented, and the aims of the Society be more speedily accomplished.

On motion of Dr. Girardeau, the Clerk was instructed to send to the family of our deceased brother a copy of so much of this report as relates to his death, with assurances of our heartfelt sympathy in their great sorrow.

Devotional exercises conducted by the Rev. G. A. Trenholm.

Afternoon Session.

Rev. R. E. Cooper reported in behalf of the Committee on the Records of South Carolina Presbytery, recommending their approval, which was adopted.

Rev. W. P. Jacobs, Stated Clerk of South Carolina Presbytery, reported that Rev. H. T. Morton, who is present, had to-day been received into the membership of that Presbytery, and his name was accordingly enrolled.

Rev. J. H. Saye presented the following paper, which was adopted:

The Synod having heard the statements of Rev. J. K. Hazen, Secretary of Publication, in regard to the operations and present condition of this important interest of our Church, would express its sense of the importance and value of this branch of our general work. And we hereby agree to co-operate heartily in carrying out the purposes for which the Committee of Publication exists. We therefore earnestly recommend to the Presbyteries, Sessions, and members of our Churches, to take measures to carry on this business: first, by relieving the Committee of its present embarrassment by means of liberal contributions in aid of its funds; and secondly, by adopting and carrying out plans for the circulation of its publications in all parts of our territory, especially through the agency of colporteurs.

Rev. Dr. Girardeau presented the following report:

The Committee of Bills and Overtures report Overture No. 1, which is petition from sundry Ministers and Elders of the Presbyteries of South Carolina and Bethel, praying the Synod to set off from the said Presbyteries the Churches and Ministers in the Counties of Spartanburg, Greenville, Laurens and Union, and constitute them into a new Presbytery, the boundaries of which shall be those of the territory comprising the said Counties.

The Committee recommend that the prayer of the petitioners be granted.

Pending the consideration of this report, the hour for recess arrived, and Synod receded from business until 7½ o'clock this evening.

Evening Session.

The Session was opened with singing and prayer, after which the Synod proceeded to the consideration of the subject of Foreign Missions. The letter from Rev. H. C. DuBose, our Missionary at Soochow, China, was read. Dr. J. Leighton Wilson, Secretary of Foreign Missions, then addressed Synod in the interests of this cause, and was followed in addresses by Rev. Dr. Adger, Dr. Frierson, Mr. Dow and Dr. Girardeau.

While the congregation assembled with Synod, joined in singing the Missionary hymn, a collection was raised, which amounted to $109.

Synod then adjourned till 9½ a. m., to-morrow, with the benediction.

Saturday, October 26th, 9½ a. m.

Synod was opened with prayer by the Moderator, and the minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

Rev. Dr. Girardeau presented the following report, which was adopted:

The Committee of Bills and Overtures report a request contained in the Narrative of Harmony Presbytery, that, in view of the discouraging state of religion in its bounds, the Synod would unite with said Presbytery in the observance af a day of fasting, humiliation and prayer, to be appointed by the Synod.

The Committee recommend the adoption of the following action:

The Synod highly approves the spirit of the request preferred by the Presbytery of Harmony; but inasmuch as the appointment by the Synod of a day of fasting, humiliation and prayer, as extraordinary, ought to be grounded in weighty reasons growing out of the general condition of the Church in its bounds; and inasmuch as the reports of the other Presbyteries indicate a spiritual condition of their Churches which furnishes encouragement and calls for thanksgiving—the Synod deems it inexpedient to comply with the request.

The unfinished business, viz., the report of the Committee on Overture No. 1. was taken up. A motion to recommit was lost.

In accordance with the order for 10 o'clock, the Judicial Committee reported, presenting again two reports, the minority report signed by J. R. Dow, Chairman; the majority report, by the other members of the Committee. Both reports were received. A motion to reconsider the action at the last meeting whereby the report of the Judicial Committee in the matter of Rev. J. E. White, was adopted, was discussed for the remainder of this morning's session, without reaching a vote.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. W. P. Jacobs.

Afternoon Session.

Rev T. H. Law, of the Committee on Devotional Exercises, reported the following appointments for the Sabbath, which report was adopted:

Presbyterian Church.—Rev. W. F. Junkin, D. D., Moderator, preach at 11 o'clock, a. m.
Rev. J. B. Adger, D. D., administer the Lord's Supper.
Rev. Luther H. Wilson, preach to the children at 4 p. m.
Rev. J. L. Girardeau D. D., preach at 7½ o'clock, p. m.
Baptist Church.—Rev. F. L. Leeper preach at 11 o'clock, a. m.
Rev. James McDowell preach at 4 o'clock, p. m.
Methodist Church.—Rev. G. A. Trenholm preach at 11 o'clock, a. m.
Rev. D E. Frierson, D. D., preach at 7½ o'clock, p. m.
Nazareth Church (in the Country)—Rev. Jno. R. Dow preach at 12, m.

The unfinished business of the morning session was resumed. In view of the fact that the Records of Bethel Presbytery have not yet come into the hands of the Synod, on motion, it was

Resolved, That Synod postpone the further consideration of this matter until 9½ o'clock, Monday morning, when it is expected that the Records will be in the house.

The report of the Committee on Overture No. 1 was again taken up. And after further discussion the report was adopted. And on motion, it was made the first order for this evening to hear the remainder of the Committee's report, in reference to carrying out this action of the Synod in the formation of the new Presbytery.

Evening Session.

Rev. Dr. Girardeau, in behalf of the Committee on Bills and Overtures, presented the remainder of the report on Overture No. 1, which was amended and adopted. The report, including the first recommendation already adopted, is as follows:

The Committee recommend—

1. That the prayer of the petitioners be granted.
2. That the Synod hereby orders the erection of the Presbytery contemplated in the petition.
3. That in order to effect this end, the Ministers residing in said Counties, and Elders chosen by the Churches in the same, who are here present in attendance upon this meeting of the Synod, are directed to meet in the Study of Rev. T. H. Law to-night, after the adjournment of the Synod, and proceed to organize said Presbytery.
4. That the Rev. F. Jacobs, D. D., shall preside until a moderator shall be chosen and the organization of the new Presbytery be duly effected.
5. That it be left to the new Presbytery, when organized, to select the name by which it shall be known.
6. That the Presbytery of South Carolina be directed to meet to-night after the adjournment of Synod and proceed to take such steps as are necessary to secure these ends.

Rev. Dr. Adger presented the following report, which was adopted:

The Committee on the Minutes of the Assembly find nothing demanding the particular attention of this Synod as such. That there is a deliverance of the General Assembly on page 625, solemnly protesting against the practice, now becoming general, of men who have never been ordained to preach the Gospel, undertaking to perform that peculiar function of the Christian Ministry; and the Committee recommend that Synod endorse and reiterate this testimony. The Assembly earnestly urges all our Ministers and people to avoid encouraging these self sent evangelists, whether by active co-operation or otherwise; and this Synod does hereby emphatically call the attenton of every one of our Ministers and all our Sessions to this warning of our supreme Judicatory, and urge on them to take no part in dishonoring the ordinance of the Ministry which Christ has set up, and by this means, undermining His Church.

On motion, the reports of the Judicial Committee were re-committed, with instructions to examine the Records of Bethel Presbytery, and report again at 9½ a. m. on Monday.

Rev. J. G. Richards presented the following report, which was adopted:

Synod having heard through Rev. Dr. Wilson, the Assembly's Secretary of Sustentation, of the present pressing wants of the cause of Sustentation, and of the fact that many of our Churches in the Southwest, which have hitherto contributed to this cause, have been so prostrated by the ravages of yellow fever as that they themselves will probably need aid; earnestly recommend its Ministers and Elders to take such steps as will secure more liberal contributions to this department of the great work which God has committed to His Church.

On motion, Synod then adjourned till 9½ a. m. another day. Prayer by Rev. Dr Hepburn.

MONDAY, October 28th, 9½ a. m.

Synod convened and was opened with prayer by the Moderator. The minutes of Saturday were read and approved.

Rev. J. G. Law presented the following report of the Committee on Leave of Absence, which was adopted:

The Committee on Leave of Absence respectfully report to Synod: That letters containing excuses for non-attendance at this meeting have been received from the following Ministers, who have been excused, viz: Edward Palmer, George Howe, W. S. Plumer, C. S. Vedder, J. B. Mack, J. O. Lindsay and E. H. Buist. Upon verbal excuses, R H. Reid, E. Brantley, J. R. Riley, Hugh Strong, J. H. Douglas, D. McQueen and W. J. McKay.

Leave of absence has been granted at different times during the present sessions to the following: Ministers—F. Jacobs, W. P. Jacobs, R. C. Ligon, H. T. Morton, W. W. Mills; (and from 1 o'clock to-day) W. F. Junkin and J. B. Adger. Elders—R. C. McFadden, F W. Eison, R. C. Farr, W.A.Nicholson, S. G. Smith, Samuel Bryson, S. R. Todd, W. C. Sherard, A. White, S. P. Boozer, and J. G. Lowry.

Rev. T. H. Law, in the absence of the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery, reported that the Ministers and Elders of the Churches included in the new Presbytery erected by Synod, who are present at this meeting, met pursuant to the Synod's order, and organized by the enrollment of the members present, the election of the Rev. F. Jacobs, D. D., Moderator, and Rev. W. P. Jacobs, Stated Clerk. The new Presbytery adopted the name of ENOREE, and after arranging for the prosecution of the Presbytery's work, *ad interim*, adjourned to meet in regular session at Laurensville, on Thursday before the second Sabbath in April next, at 7 o'clock, p. m.

On motion, the name of the new Presbytery was enrolled.

Rev. J. R. Dow in behalf of the Judicial Committee, presented a report. After the discussion of the report at length upon a motion to adopt, the following resolution was, on motion of Elder J. T. Hay, adopted:

Resolved, That the further consideration of the report of the Judicial Committee be postponed for the present, in order that, by consent of Bethel Presbytery and Rev. J. E. White, the questions at issue may be brought before Synod in the form of a *Complaint*, they waiving technicalities.

The question having been propounded by the representative of Bethel Presbytery: "What would be the ground covered by this Complaint?" it was

Resolved, That it could reach back only to the action of the last Synod.

In order that Bethel Presbytery might have the opportunity to meet and consider the above action of Synod, a recess was taken by Synod, to assemble again at the call of the Moderator.

Upon re-assembling, Rev. F. L. Leeper reported in behalf of the Committee on the Records of Bethel Presbytery, recommending their approval. Adopted.

Rev. L. H. Wilson reported in behalf of Bethel Presbytery as follows:

The Committee appointed by Bethel Presbytery to confer with Mr. White, reported as follows: That they had presented the following paper, adopted by the Presbytery in compliance with the action of Synod, to Mr. White, and he declined to consent to it:

Resolved, That Presbytery consent that the appellant be allowed to amend his appeal into a *Complaint*, covering the meetings of November 20th, 1877, and January 16th, 1878, Presbytery reserving the right to explain the reasons for action at those meetings.

To this resolution there was one dissenting voice, and that the voice of one who has sustained Mr. White through all the proceedings had in this case.

On motion it was resolved, that upon hearing this report, this aspect of the matter now be dismissed from further consideration by this body.

The report of the Judicial Committee, which recommended that the case be taken up and issued, was rejected. And upon motion of Dr. Adger, the appeal of Rev. J. E. White was dismissed as out of order.

Rev. J. E. White gave notice that he would carry the matter to the General Assembly.

On motion, Rev. J. B. Adger, D. D., and Rev. J. B. Mack were appointed to represent the Synod in this case before the next Assembly.

Rev. J. Lowrie Wilson presented the report of the Committee on the Theological Seminary, which was adopted as follows:

The Committee on the Theological Seminary regret that the data necessary for a full and complete report have not been placed in their hands. But from such as are in their possession, beg to submit the following, to wit:

1st. That this, our cherished Institution, has been brought safely through another year of its history, though with a somewhat diminished number of students, and with the resignation of the Rev. C. R. Hemphill, the Tutor of Hebrew.

2nd. That the financial prospects of the Seminary, though somewhat improved by the efficient agency of the Rev. C. E. Chichester, are still far from satisfactory. "The invested funds of the Seminary," we are informed, "will *probably* yield about $6,149 per annum. The expenses of the Seminary which are *absolutely necessary*, will be about $8,300, $1,200 less than last year, allowing nothing for the expense of the Library in the much needed repairs of books and the addition of new ones. This requires the supply of at least $2,250 additional, to be raised for the annual expenses of the Institution. The preceding statement of deficiency has no respect to the Perkins Professorship, which is supposed to be provided for by a special endowment, some portion of which, however, yields no income. The receipts of the last year, or rather, for the period from September 13th, 1877, to October 21st, 1878, and which are due in great part to the agency of Mr. Chichester, have been more generous than for a number of years past."

Your Committee are glad to inform the Synod that the assessment of $1,500 apportioned for this purpose among its several constituent Presbyteries, has been more than realized, by the amount of $72.86.

We recommend:

1st. That of the $2,250 necessary to be raised for the Seminary the present year, the Synod of South Carolina undertake to raise $1,300, hoping that the other three Synods specially interested in the Institution will conjointly raise the remaining $950.

2nd. That this $1,300 be apportioned among our Presbyteries as follows: Bethel, $300; Charleston, $200; Enoree, $200; Harmony, $300; and South Carolina, $300.

3d. That the following Ministers be appointed to attend to this important matter in the several Presbyteries, viz: Rev. J. S. White, in Bethel; Rev. F. L. Leeper, in Charleston; Rev. T. H. Law, in Enoree; Rev. W. J. McKay, in Harmony; and Rev. J. L. Martin, in South Carolina.

We earnestly urge upon these brethren and upon all our Ministers and Elders, the great necessity of collecting these respective sums with the least possible delay, and forwarding them to the Treasurer of the Seminary, Mr. Henry Muller, Columbia, S. C.

On motion of Rev. J. L. Martin, the Treasurer of the Seminary is requested to furnish Synod at each meeting with an accurate statement of the contributions of the several Churches of this Synod to the Seminary during the year under this assessment.

On motion of Rev. H. G. Gilland, it was

Resolved, That Synod enjoins again on the Churches in its bounds which have not established the office of the Diaconate among them, to elect and ordain one or more men to this office as soon as practicable, if members suitably qualified for it may be found in their midst.

On motion of Rev. Dr. Girardeau, it was

Resolved, That this Synod expresses its sincere condolence with the Rev. W. S. Plumer, D. D., under the domestic affliction through which Providence calls him to pass.*

Elder J. L. Harris presented report of Committee on Finance, which was adopted as follows:

The Committee on Finance beg to report that they have examined the Treasurer's Report, and find it correct and regularly vouched.

The Committee recommend the following assessment on the Presbyteries to meet the current expenses of the present year: Bethel, $35; Enoree, $30; Charleston, $30; Harmony, $45; South Carolina, $35; in all, $175.

And also, that the Stated Clerk be directed to have 1,500 copies of the minutes of this meeting printed and distributed among our Churches.

On motion of Rev. L. H. Wilson, it was

Resolved, That the thanks of this Synod be returned to the citizens of Spartanburg for the kind and generous hospitality with which they have entertained the members of this body during its sessions in this place; to the pastors of the Churches which have been tendered to our use; and to the various railroad and livery stable companies which have transported our delegates at reduced rates of fare; and, that the pastor of this Church be authorized to make this known in the manner he deems best.

Upon a motion to adjourn, the minutes of to-day were read and approved.

The Synod then adjourned with singing, prayer and the Apostolic benediction, to meet at Rock Hill, on Wednesday, November 26th, 1879, at 7 o'clock, p. m.

W. F. JUNKIN, Moderator.

THOS. H. LAW, Stated Clerk.

*Mrs. Plumer was at this time lying at the point of death, and fell asleep two days afterwards. CLERK.